



contd.
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11 α -hydroxy-3-methoxy-14 α ,15 α -methylene-8 α ,9 α -oxidoestra-
1,3,5(10)-trien-17 α -yl acetate, 3-methoxy-14 α ,15 α -methylene-
8 α ,9 α -oxidoestra-1,3,5(10)-trien-11 α ,17 α -diyl diacetate and
3-methoxy-11 α -hydroxy-8 α ,9 α -oxido-14 α ,15 α -methylenestra-
1,3,5(10)-trien-17 β -yl acetate.

REMARKS

This is a preliminary amendment of the U.S. National Stage Application, Ser.No. 09/937,723, of PCT/EP 00/02513.

Claims 1 to 9 have been canceled and replaced by new claims 10 to 21. The new claims 10 to 21 contain the subject matter of the modified or amended claims filed in the corresponding International Application(the EP application).

Claims 10 to 12 correspond to canceled claims 1 to 3 and claim the equilenin derivatives of formula I. Claim 13 claims the method of producing the compounds of formula I and corresponds to canceled claim 4. Claims 14 to 15 claim pharmaceutical compositions according to canceled claim 5. Claims 16 and 17 are method claims

that replace canceled non-statutory "use" claim 6. Claims 18 and 19 are method claims that replace canceled non-statutory "use" claim 7. Claims 20 and 21 correspond to canceled claims 8 and 9 and claim the compounds of formula II.

The specification has been amended to make the changes of the amended or modified pages in the corresponding International Application. Furthermore section headings recommended in U.S. Patent Practice have been added by the above insertions.

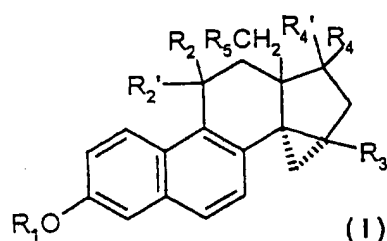
Appendix below includes the changes made in the specification paragraphs but not the insertions.

**APPENDIX SHOWING CHANGES MADE IN THE SPECIFICATION
AND CLAIMS**

Underlining shows additions; brackets show deletions

Page 1, last paragraph (starting line 19 to line 2, page 2):

According to the invention, this objective is [reached] attained by forming equilenin derivatives of general formula (I)



wherein

R_1 denotes a hydrogen atom, a C_1 - C_5 -alkyl group, a C_1 - C_5 -acyl group or a benzoyl group,

R_2 denotes a hydrogen atom and R'_2 denotes [a hydrogen atom,] a fluorine atom, a hydroxyl group or a C_1 - C_5 -acyloxy group or R_2 and R'_2 together denote an oxo group,

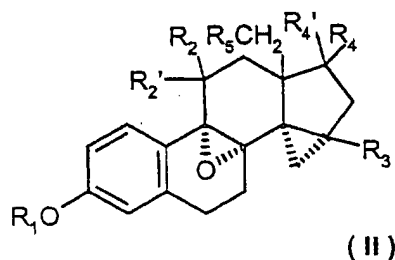
R_3 denotes a hydrogen atom or a methyl group,

R_4 denotes a hydrogen atom and R'_4 denotes a hydroxyl group or a C_1 - C_{11} -acyloxy group or R_4 and R'_4 together denote an oxo group, a methylene group, a halomethylene group or a dihalomethylene group and

R_5 denotes a hydrogen atom or a methyl group.

Page 5, first full paragraph (lines 4 to 14):

The cyclopropano steroids of general formula II



wherein

R_1 denotes a hydrogen atom, a C_1 - C_5 -alkyl group, a C_1 - C_5 -acyl group or a benzoyl group,

R_2 denotes a hydrogen atom and R'_2 denotes [a hydrogen atom,] a fluorine atom, a hydroxyl group or a C_1 - C_5 -acyloxy group or R_2 and R'_2 together denote an oxo group,

R_3 denotes a hydrogen atom or a methyl group,

R_4 denotes a hydrogen atom and R'_4 denotes a hydroxyl group or a C_1 - C_{11} -acyloxy group or R_4 and R'_4 together denote an oxo group, a methylene group, a halomethylene group or a dihalomethylene group and

R_5 denotes a hydrogen atom or a methyl group,
are new and have previously not been described.

Page 5, second full paragraph (line 15 to 24):


Particularly preferred, are, for example, the following cyclopropano steroids:

- [1) 3-methoxy-14 α ,15 α -methylene-8 α ,9 α -oxidoestra-1, 3, 5(10)-trien-17 α -ol,
- 2) 3-methoxy-14 α ,15 α -methylene-8 α ,9 α -oxidoestra-1, 3, 5(10)-trien-17 α -yl acetate,
- 3) 3-methoxy-14 α ,15 α -methylene-8 α ,9 α -oxidoestra-18 α -homoestra-1, 3, 5(10)-trien-17 α -yl propionate,
- 4) 14 α ,15 α -methylene-8 α ,9 α -oxidoestra-1,3,5(10)-trien-3,17 α -diyl diacetate,
- 5) 3-methoxy-15 β -methyl-14 α ,15 α -methylene-8 α ,9 α -oxidoestra-1,3,5(10)-trien-17 β -ol,
- 6)] 1) 11 α -hydroxy-3-methoxy-14 α ,15 α -methylene-8 α ,9 α -oxidoestra-1,3,5(10)-trien-17 α -yl acetate,
- [7)] 2) 3-methoxy-14 α ,15 α -methylene-8 α ,9 α -oxidoestra-1,3,5(10)-trien-11 α ,17 α -diyl diacetate and
- [8)] 3) 3-methoxy-11 α -hydroxy-8 α ,9 α -oxido-14 α ,15 α -methylenestra-1,3,5(10)-trien-17 β -yl acetate.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawing be further amended or corrected in formal respects to put this case in condition for final allowance, then it is requested that such amendments or corrections be carried out by Examiner's Amendment and the case passed to issue. Any costs involved should be charged to the deposit account of the undersigned (No. 19-4675). Alternatively, should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing the case to allowance, he or she is invited to telephone the undersigned at 1-631-549 4700.

In view of the foregoing, favorable allowance is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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